



Drinking Water Branch

Chemical Contaminant Monitoring

IOCs, SOCs, & VOCs

Fact Sheet

Who is required to monitor for chemical contaminants?

All community and nontransient noncommunity public water systems are required to monitor for three (3) chemical contaminant groups.

What contaminants should I monitor for?

Monitoring is required for the following chemical contaminant groups: inorganic chemicals (IOCs), which often appear as naturally occurring contaminants in source water, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as industrial solvents, and synthetic organic compounds (SOCs). Common examples of SOCs include pesticides and herbicides.

When do I monitor for chemical contaminants?

Chemical monitoring is not a “one size fits all” initiative. Several factors must be considered in determining a public water supply system’s chemical contaminant monitoring schedule. The Drinking Water Branch will determine your system’s monitoring frequency based on established criteria for source water type, past detections, assessed vulnerability to contaminants, population, and use of contaminants in your area. **To determine your system’s exact monitoring frequency, contact the Drinking Water Branch at (317) 308-3282.**

What should I do if I detect contaminants?

If your public water supply system detects any chemical contaminant(s), contact the Drinking Water Branch for further assistance. The Drinking Water Branch can provide information on possible health effects of the detected contaminant(s), treatment options, public notices, and updated monitoring requirements for your system.

What is a waiver?

IDEM offers chemical monitoring waivers to all **qualified** community and nontransient noncommunity public water supply systems on a voluntary basis. The Drinking Water Branch may grant a public water system a chemical monitoring waiver if said system meets established criteria for source type, nondetection, vulnerability, population, and use of contaminants in the area. The monitoring waiver program offers substantial savings to **qualified** public water systems by reducing the chemical monitoring frequency per contaminant within each compliance period. The types of monitoring waivers available include a “use” waiver for VOCs and SOCs, a “statewide” waiver for PCBs and Dioxin, a “susceptibility” waiver for Glyphosate and Cyanide, and a “use” waiver for Asbestos.

Who Do I Contact If I Have Questions?

You should contact the *IDEM Drinking Water Branch* if you have any questions. Remember that chemical contaminant monitoring requirements will vary from system to system. The Drinking Water Branch can provide your system with a spreadsheet detailing your minimum monitoring schedule for each compliance period. Our number is (317)308-3282. You may also contact the *IDEM Environmental Helpline* at (800)451-6027, or the *EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline* at (800)426-4791.

Rule Citations

327 IAC 8-2-4, 8-2-4.1, 8-2-5, 8-2-5.1, 8-2-5.4, 8-2-5.5

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